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ORIGINALLY FILEDCase S03108-00-USIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Tou et al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/541,844

FILED: April 3, 2000

TITLE: METHOD OF REMOVING N-TERMINAL ALANINE RESIDUES FROM POLYPEPTIDES WITH
AEROMONAS AMINOPEPTIDASE

DOCKET NO: S03108-00-US

GROUP ART UNIT: 1651

EXAMINER: J. Weber

DATE: Thursday, February 28, 2002

Certification of Mailing

I hereby certify that the correspondence is being
deposited with the United States Postal Service as
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on Thursday, February 28, 2002.

Verne A. Luckow

Registration No. 45,950

 Date: 2-28-02RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

The following remarks are in response to the Official Office Action dated August 28, 2001, as paper number 10, for application number 09/541,844, filed April 3, 2000. A three month extension of time is included with this reply.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS AND DRAWINGSIn the drawings:*Amend the drawings as follows:*

In Figure 1, replace the misspelled word "HORMONRE" with the word "HORMONE". A corrected copy of Figure 1 (as an informal drawing) is attached to this response on a separate page.

In the claims:*A clean set of claims is appended to this response.*